

DEC 18 1924 ✓

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PLAYTHINGS OF DESIRE ✓

Photoplay in 7 reels ✓

Directed by Burton King

✓ From the Novel by J. Wesley Putnam ✓

Author of the Photoplay (under section 62)

~~Jans Productions, Inc. of U.S.~~ ✓

Adapted by Wm. B. Lamb ✓

DEC 18 1924

Synopsis of  
"PLAYTHINGS OF DESIRE".

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A Herman F. Jans Production.

From the novel by J. Wesley Putnam. Directed by Burton King  
Continuity by Wm. B. Laub.

Gloria Dawn has just reached the heights of success on the stage when James Malvern with his enviable social position and wealth enters her life and persuades her to believe herself to be in love with him.

She knows nothing of Malvern's former affairs with women nor that he has been particularly attentive to a certain Renee Grant - exotic dancer of the Follies and cabarets - until after their marriage. But the honeymoon has hardly set when she learns certain things concerning Renee and Malvern which cause her to regret the step she has taken.

And yet she determines to make the best of a bad bargain and tries to forget her shattered illusions so trustingly built up around the man she has married.

But Malvern actually has put Renee out of his life - and has paid her well to stay out; much to the annoyance of one Wheeler Johnson, an agent who lives on his wits and has tried to show Renee a way of fleecing Malvern handsomely by means of a "breach of promise" suit. Renee is decent enough to play fair with Malvern and keep her promise not to embarrass him - but Johnson schemes to take advantage of the millionaire's failing for women and accordingly, watches him carefully from afar.

Within six months of Gloria's marriage, Malvern begins to exhibit a fast-growing indifference to her. And the principal reason for this is the return of Anne Cabot from

Europe. Her brother, John Cabot - Governor of the State and said to be a "Malvern Man", is visited by Malvern on the night that Anne arrives home.

Nothing could please Anne Cabot more; she had always believed herself capable of dangling Jim Malvern from a string and it was a blow to her vanity when he married Gloria Dawn. She makes up her mind now that she will try her wiles on him again - just because she is the type that enjoys this sort of thing and not because she really wants him. But her campaign leads her into deeper water than she could have possibly foreseen.

Gloria is so sure that Malvern's continued neglect of her is due to his interest in Renee Grant - and suspecting

nothing of the affair with Anne Cabot now in progress - that she urges Malvern to give a house-party at his camp in the North Woods with the idea of taking him away from the exotic little Broadway dancer.

Malvern welcomes the idea because he now wants to be rid of Gloria and marry Anne - and he believes it may be possible to manufacture grounds for divorcing Gloria by taking a former suitor of her's along with them and throwing the two together constantly. Brom Jones is the man selected for the role as Malvern knows that he has never ceased to care for his wife. But the best laid plans run true to form and another character unexpectedly walks on the stage.

Pierre DuCharme, Malvern's guide and caretaker of his lodge in the North Woods - with Indian and French blood in his veins - has worshiped Gloria from afar with a devotion

born of his sympathy for her. No man knew Jim Malvern better than Pierre and no man knew better than he how unworthy Malvern was of a girl of Gloria's calibre.

Circumstances throw them together during this house-party - partly as a result of Gloria's unhappiness and desire to get away from the rest of the party and partly because of Pierre's sympathy for her and his desire to make her happy with every respectful attention he can possibly pay her.

Then, one day, there is a scream for help from the river and Pierre dashes for the canoe landing near the lodge to discover Gloria adrift in one of the frail boats in mid-stream and being borne swiftly toward the falls a short

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distance below.

Unhesitatingly, he starts after her, paddling like mad to reach her before she is swept over the brink to certain death and succeeds by a superhuman effort in doing so - though both canoes are upset in the rapids and he has to swim through the swift water with her to reach the shore.

The rest of the party have been witnesses from afar and Malvern, with powerful binoculars to his eyes, sees the big guide tenderly carrying his wife in his arms and then deliberately kissing her as he places her on the ground.

It is a revelation to Malvern and he changes his plans by taking Pierre back to New York with them and installing him as a guest at his home. He is convinced that it is only a question of time before they will hang themselves with the rope he has given them.

It is not long, however, before Pierre and Gloria learn of Malvern's base plot and the infuriated Indian threatens to kill the millionaire if he dishonors his wife by linking her name with his. Unfortunately for Pierre, his threat made in anger, is overheard by the servants and is not forgotten.

He forthwith leaves the house and makes up his mind that he will try to protect Gloria from Malvern's plot against her by making a quiet investigation of Malvern. If he can discover that the man is having one of his usual affairs with some other woman, it will be valuable knowledge - sufficient indeed to thwart the man's scheming.

But Wheeler Johnson enters the scene ~~once~~ more - and at this time, with very definite knowledge that Malvern is having an affair with another woman. He <sup>decides</sup> ~~makes up his mind~~ to spy on them and make the millionaire pay handsomely for his silence.

Pierre DuCharme trails Malvern's automobile to the man's Long Island farm one night and sees him leave the car with some woman and enter the lodge house near the entrance to the estate. He does not see Wheeler Johnson, however, who follows the pair into the house - having been hidden in the tonneau of the car when it arrived.

Johnson enters the lodge house and finding no one in the room but Malvern, demands to know where the woman is.

Angry words follow, and suddenly, Anne, concealed back of a closet door, peers through the crack of the door and sees Johnson shoot Malvern down.

She remains hidden until he escapes and then she rushes from the room and into the night before Pierre reaches the place. He is found bending over Malvern with Johnson's revolver in his hand and is accused of the murder, on the testimony of the servants who heard him threaten to kill the man.

The trial and conviction are soon ~~over~~ past and Gloria at last discovers that she loves Pierre - now condemned to death with his execution but a short time away.

There seems no way to save him unless some new evidence can be discovered - when suddenly her steadfast friend Brom Jones comes to her rescue with a jeweled buckle he has found on the Malvern farm near the scene of the murder.

It cannot belong to Renee Grant. She has proved conclusively that she was dancing in a cabaret at the time of the shooting. Anne Cabot has worn buckles similar to this one. They make up their minds that she must have been present at the time of the shooting and Gloria goes to the Governor's house on the night before Ducharme is doomed to die. Anne is away. She had left for California before the trial and Gloria feels certain that the slippers from which the buckle was lost might be found in Anne's room among some of her belongings. She tells the Governor that the reporters have been hounding her in the city - and that since he was such a good friend of her husband's she has come to his house for shelter.

He welcomes her cordially and she finds herself installed in the room that Anne Cabot had occupied.

Anne returns home unexpectedly - half sick with worry over DuCharme's plight but unable to save him without the sacrifice of her own good name - for she would have to admit that she was the woman in the case.

Suddenly, Gloria enters the Governor's office and confronts Anne with the tell-tale pair of slippers with one buckle gone - the other in her hand. Anne is forced to confess the truth and the Governor phones the prison to delay the execution.

At this moment, a man enters the mansion and asks for Governor James Cabot - telling the butler that he had better see him immediately or his sister's name will suffer.

Wheeler Johnson, needing money badly and believing now that he is absolutely safe, is in the hall.

Anne comes from the Governor's office; sees Johnson - rushes back to her brother with the startling declaration that the murderer of Jim Malvern is in the adjoining room.

The Governor calmly goes out to him and listens quietly to his demands while the police are hurrying to the Executive Mansion in response to Gloria's summons.

Pierre DuCharme walks from the very shadow of the electric chair - to freedom, and to happiness with Gloria.

DEC 18 1924

Washington, D. C.

Register of Copyrights  
Washington, D. C.

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copyright in the name of Jans Productions, Inc.

Playthings of Desire 7 reels

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

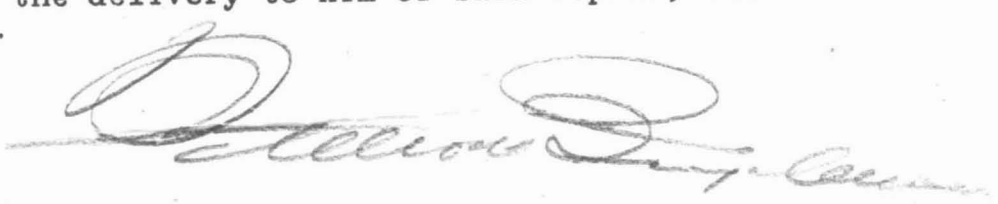
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motion picture films deposited and registered in the Copyright  
Office as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of Deposit</u>	<u>Registration</u>
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The return of the above copies was requested by the said  
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Dec. 1924 and the said Fulton Brylawski for himself, and as  
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Delivered in person

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